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J.E.SPENCE, M.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentleman,

I have to submit my annual report on the work of the Health Department for the year 1944 which has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health. The usual statistical information has been compiled but for reasons of economy is not included in the report.

In spite of the shortage of staff due to war conditions it has been possible to carry on the urgent work of the department in a fairly satisfactory manner.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been continued and a satisfactory proportion of children under the age of 15 have now been immunised and about 50% of children under 3 years have also been immunised against Whooping Cough.

The supervision of the children of women engaged on war work has been continued as in the previous year. The supervision of children under school age at the Welfare Centre and in their homes has been maintained while a further provision has been made for the supervision of the health of expectant mothers.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. E. SPENCE.

Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
Irwell Place,
ECCLES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 1,092 notifications of infectious diseases were received.

56 persons were notified as suffering from diphtheria but in 29 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed, the actual number of cases of the disease being 27. In five instances the children had been immunised. There were two deaths from the disease but in neither case had the child been immunised. 18 of the children were in attendance at public elementary schools but in no case was there any epidemic spread of infection in the schools but in one instance three children in one family contracted the disease. 3 cases occurred in children under school age and 6 in persons over school age. In addition 9 carriers of the diphtheria bacillus were discovered in school or at the school clinic and were kept under treatment until the carrier condition had cleared up. During the year 410 swabs were submitted for bacteriological examination of which 230 were taken by the staff of the department in the course of following up contacts and carriers. In 12 instances it was reported that diphtheria bacilli were present and in 19 others organisms morphologically identical with *C. diphtheriae* were found. In three instances a virulence test was carried out and in each case the organism was found to be virulent.

Immunisation against diphtheria has been continued during the year, both at the Infant Welfare Centre and in the schools. The children receive two doses of prophylactic (A.P.T.) and the parents of children immunised in infancy are advised to arrange for them to have a further dose on commencing school. During the year 681 children were immunised and 395 children previously immunised received a further dose of prophylactic. At the end of the year 1,272 children under 5 years, 4,126 aged 5-15 years and 863 over 15 years had been immunised. 43.39 per cent. of the children under five years and 78.03 per cent. of the children 5-15 years have now been immunised, and there is no doubt that the low incidence of diphtheria during the year is due to the effective immunisation of this high proportion of children.

94 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, a decrease on the number notified in the preceeding year. The type of infection remains mild and many of the cases are atypical, the rash not being accompanied by the usual symptoms of the disease. 13 of the patients were removed to hospital as conditions at home were unfavourable for isolation.

227 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year, 140 of the children being under the age of five years. The cases occurred mainly in the months of March, April and May, practically a quarter of the cases occurred in Westwood Park Ward.

Immunisation against whooping cough has now been carried out during the past three years during which time 889 children have been immunised, equal to about 50 per cent. of the children under three years, 276 children were immunised during the past year. It is too early to express a definite opinion on the value of immunisation as

an absolute preventative of the disease, but I am satisfied that should infection be contracted, the illness is modified and is slight, the distressing paroxysmal cough being absent and on this account alone immunisation is well worth while.

During the year 283 cases of measles were notified. There were no deaths from the disease. There was an outbreak of the disease in June and July which subsided, but in November the number of notifications again increased and in December 73 cases were notified. Measles occurs in biennial epidemics and it is now two years since there was an outbreak of the disease. The last large epidemic of the disease occurred in 1938 when over 1,000 cases occurred.

Four cases of puerperal pyrexia and three cases of septic abortion were notified and removed to hospital. Three cases of dysentery, three of ophthalmia neonatorum, two cases of cerebro spinal meningitis, one of typhoid and one of pharyngitis were also notified.

SUPERVISION OF MILK SUPPLY

During the year fifteen samples of loose milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. In eight instances the total number of bacteria was below 100,000 per millilitre, in three instances between 100,000 and 200,000 and in four instances over 200,000. *Bacterium coli* were present in all tubes inoculated with 0.1 ml of milk in ten instances and only in two were *B.coli* not found in 0.1 ml.

One sample of sterilised milk was submitted for examination and was found to be satisfactory.

Considerable difficulty was experienced with the Tuberculin Tested milk which was supplied to one retailer. In the early part of the year the milk was supplied from a herd at Kinnerton, Cheshire, and two of four samples failed to satisfy the methylene blue test. This supply was discontinued and the retailer obtained the milk from a herd at Davenham. During the period when supplied from this source, five samples were submitted for examination, four of which failed to satisfy the coliform test. On one occasion the milk was sour on arrival in Eccles. A strong protest was made to the Milk Marketing Board and the source of supply was changed. Since then the condition of the milk arriving in Eccles has been satisfactory and on all occasions has satisfied both the methylene blue and the coliform tests.

Two samples of Tuberculin Tested milk supplied by another retailer were both found to be satisfactory.

24 samples of bottled pasteurised milk have been submitted for bacteriological examination. In 12 instances the total number of organisms were less than 100,000 in 7 between 100,000 and 200,000 and in 5 over 200,000. *Bacterium coli* were found in three tubes inoculated with 0.1 ml of milk in 21 instances.

17 samples of milk were submitted for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli, 10 being of loose milk, five of tuberculin tested milk and 2 of pasteurised milk. In one sample of loose milk tubercle bacilli were found.

In spite of all the plans which have been made for the improvement of milk sent into urban areas, very much of it is still far from satisfactory. So long as the milk reaches towns in its present unsatisfactory condition dried milk will remain the only safe form of milk for the substitute feeding of infants.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

During the year 131 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act of which 17 were found to be unsatisfactory. 93 were samples of milk, of which 67 were formal samples and 26 informal, while 38 were informal samples of other foods.

The foods sampled were as follows:-

	<u>No. of samples.</u>	<u>No. unsatisfactory</u>
Milk	93	14
Self-raising flour	5	
Jam	3	
Butter	2	
Cooking fat	2	
Sugar	2	
Coffee	2	
Soya flour	2	
Ground ginger	2	
Mixed spice	2	
Vinegar	2	1
Gravy browning	2	
Glycerine	2	
Castor oil	2	
Marmalade	2	1
Minced meat	2	1
Oatmeal	1	
Rolled oats	1	
Lemon curd	1	
Mustard compound	1	
	<u>131</u>	<u>17</u>

107 samples were examined for preservatives. 104 contained no preservatives and two samples of jam and one of marmalade contained permitted preservatives.

Sample No. 606 This sample of pasteurised milk was found to contain at least 7 per cent. of extraneous water. Subsequent samples were genuine and it was ascertained that the presence of water was due to the carelessness of the unskilled staff operating the plant.

621

Samples 619 and 622 The first of these samples was obtained from a dairyman and the other samples were "follow up" samples. All the samples showed a deficiency in fat of 6.6 per cent. and 13.3 per cent. and 3.3 per cent. respectively. The solids not fat were low but the freezing

point was satisfactory. A letter was sent to the producer requesting him to take steps to improve the poor quality of the supply.

Sample No. 652 This sample was deficient in fat to the extent of 7.6 per cent, but was rich in solids not fat. The farm was visited and four samples taken on delivery were all found to be genuine. It was ascertained that the fat deficiency was due to unsatisfactory distribution of the "strippings" in the kits and the farmer was advised on this point.

Samples No. 669 This sample of bottled milk was found to be deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6 per cent. Nine samples were taken on delivery at the dairy on the following day, eight of which were satisfactory but one was deficient in fat and solids not fat, although the freezing point was satisfactory. The deficiency was probably due to natural causes and the company supplying the milk was requested to bring the matter to the notice of the producer.

Samples Nos. 724 and 729 to 734 These seven samples were all from one source and showed the presence of extraneous water to the extent of 2.0, 2.3, 4.1, 4.6, 4.2, 5.3 and 3.0 per cent. respectively. The first two samples were taken from a retail dairyman and the third sample from the wholesaler who obtained his milk from another wholesaler from whom the remaining samples were obtained. The milk was pasteurised. Samples No. 730 and 736 were taken at the plant before and after pasteurising and it was observed that there was a slight diminution in the solids not fat after pasteurising but insufficient to raise the freezing point above 0.530 °C. It is probable that the deficiency in solids not fat may have been due to a leak in the plant. The dairy man was warned and the County Medical Officer, in whose area the plant is situated, was communicated with.

Sample No. 691 This sample of artificial vinegar was unsatisfactorily labelled and the producer, on being interviewed, undertook to obtain new labels on the lines suggested.

Samples Nos. 713 and 714 The labels on these samples of marmalade and mincemeat did not comply with the requirements of the Preserves Order. The producer and the Divisional Food Executive were communicated with.

Sample No. 524 This sample of leaf gelatine which was found to contain an excess of arsenic was taken in 1943 and the summons was heard in January of last year when the wholesalers were fined £22.0.0d.

Samples Nos. 599 and 600 These samples of milk which were found to contain arsenic were taken in 1943. The case was heard in January of last year and the farmer was fined £22.0.0d. in each case.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

During the year 619 births were notified in the borough. The nett number of births was 708 equivalent to a provisional birth rate of 17.6 per 1,000 of the population.

43 deaths of infants under one year of age occurred equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 60 per 1,000 births.

519 deaths occurred equivalent to a provisional death rate of 12.9 per 1,000 of the population.

The supervision of infants and young children has been continued as in previous years and the child welfare work has been closely co-ordinated with the school medical service. During the year 697 first visits were paid to infants and 3,685 subsequent visits paid to children under one year of age. 2,271 visits were paid to children 1-2 years and 2,903 to children aged 2-5 years, a total of 9,556 routine visits to the homes of children not in attendance at school. The home visiting of infants is closely linked with the attendance of mothers at the welfare centre and mothers are encouraged to attend the centre on the afternoon when the Health Visitor of their district is in attendance.

The attendance at the Infant Welfare Centre has increased. On a large number of occasions the attendance of mothers has exceeded 70 and on some occasions has exceeded 100. The accommodation at the centre is insufficient to cope satisfactorily with such large numbers and the health visitor is unable to give the attention desirable to many of the infants when the numbers attending are so large. It has been decided to open the welfare centre on Tuesday morning each week from 10 am. to 12 noon. Owing to the increasing amount of clinic work the following up of children in their homes has shown a tendency to decline during recent years and, with the increase in the number of babies born, the health visitors have been unable to follow up the babies as closely as is desirable, particularly during periods of epidemics of measles or whooping cough. It has been decided therefore to appoint an additional health visitor and divide the Borough into five districts, each health visitor undertaking the supervision of infants and the school medical work in her area, in addition to carrying out duties in the various clinics.

The welfare centre has been open on 209 occasions when 661 new children under one year of age and 54 children over one year of age attended. Of the 1,170 children who attended the centre, 558 were under one year of age at the end of the year and 612 were over one year. The total attendances made by children during the year was 13,927 of which 10,458 were made by children under one year of age, 2,634 by children aged 1-2 years and 855 by children aged 2-5 years. The average attendance at each session was 63 mothers, 50 children under one year and 17 aged one-five years. A medical officer was in attendance at the centre on 194 sessions and made a total of 5,039 examinations of children, 3,070 being of children under one year, 1,455 of children 1-2 years and 514 of children aged 2-5 years.

Children under school age suffering from minor ailments, nasal, dental, ophthalmic or orthopaedic defects are referred to the school clinic for treatment. During the year 76 children were referred to the clinic for the treatment of minor ailments, 36 for toothache, 33 for orthopaedic defects and 29 for ophthalmic conditions.

Part of the premises at the Welfare Centre has been placed at the disposal of the Food Executive Officer for the storage and distribution of dried milk and vitamin substances and the staff at the welfare centre has assisted in the distribution of dried milk, cod liver oil and fruit juice to infants and also to children under the age of five years in attendance at Public Elementary schools.

Various approved brands of dried milk have been on sale at the welfare centre and in spite of the distribution of National Dried Milk free or at a reduced price the proprietary brands of milk powder have enjoyed a large sale. The sales of proprietary brands of dried milk has during the past years been greater than during the pre-war years.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

At the beginning of the year there were on the register five children in the care of foster parents. During the year one child was adopted by its foster parents leaving four on the register at the end of the year. During the year 23 visits were paid to these children.

THE CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

All possible assistance has been given to unmarried mothers and their children through the welfare centre and by Health Visitors. Most of the unmarried mothers become known to us early in pregnancy at the antenatal clinic where they are kept under observation. Arrangements are made for their confinement in hospital or at home where this is possible and advice is given with respect to affiliation of the child. In cases in which it is not possible for the mother to keep the child assistance is given in arranging for its adoption. It is not considered desirable that parents adopting a child should be resident in the same district as the mother and, to avoid this, the adoptions are usually arranged through the Manchester Health Department. I desire to express my appreciation of the assistance so willingly given by Miss Madfield of the Manchester Health Department in finding suitable adopters for children born in the district, and also in finding children for parents in this district who desire to adopt them. When mothers desire to keep their children but must go out to work assistance is given in finding suitable foster parents who will look after the children. The hostel provided by the Manchester Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare Work at Ennismore, Regent Road, has accommodation for 16 mothers who may remain there with their children until they reach the age of twelve months or in special cases for a longer period. Provision has also been made there for the care of a few children whose mothers have been unable to remain with them or take them with them.

CARE OF CHILDREN OF WORKING WOMEN

No war time nursery has been established in Eccles but part of one infants school has been adapted as a war time nursery class and was opened in January of this year while a special building has also been erected in Westwood Park Yard for this purpose, but has not yet been opened. During the year the average number of children or working women who have been minded under the Corporation's scheme has been 15 under one year of age, 150 aged one to five years and in addition arrangements were made for the care of 30 children attending school. In most cases the children have been cared for by women living near their own homes who are known to both the mothers and the children and the children have had the benefit of individual care. At the end of the year 184 children were still being cared for by 152 minders.

The welfare of the children has been supervised by a special health visitor who has paid 2,121 visits to the homes, and has in addition assisted the parents and minders to fill up the necessary forms for the payment of the Ministry of Labour grant and checked the claims submitted to the Ministry.

RESIDENTIAL NURSERY

It is still necessary to send into the Public Assistance Institution the children of mothers who are admitted to hospital for confinement or for other reasons. The accommodation in the institution is not suitable for healthy children but it is difficult at the present time to make other provision as, so far, no building suitable for conversion into a residential nursery has been found. Should a suitable house be available it is hoped that the Council will undertake its adoption for this purpose.

There is also need for a day nursery for the occasional accommodation of young children whose mothers may wish them to be cared for on account of family reasons for a day or two. There may also be a certain number of widows with young children who will find it necessary to work to supplement their income, for whose children accommodation in a day nursery will be desirable unless suitable daily minders can be arranged for them as has been done for the children of women engaged on war work.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT FOR MOTHERS

During the year it has been possible to send 3 mothers with 4 children to the Convalescent Home for Mothers at Brentwood House, Marple, maintained by the Lancashire Community Council. The mothers, who were in a poor state of health after confinement, benefited greatly by the rest at the convalescent home.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

The ante-natal and post-natal clinic has been held on Friday morning and afternoon as usual. The clinic has been carried on by Nurse Bradley and Nurse Dunn and abnormal cases have been referred to Dr. Addis who has attended on one session each month to examine and advise on cases presenting difficulties. I have attended the clinic to give assistance to the mothers with social problems and other difficulties which may arise. Patients suffering from urgent complications requiring immediate attention are referred to Hope Hospital, and I wish to express my appreciation of the assistance we have received from the Medical Superintendent and the Resident Obstetrical Surgeon at the hospital. Cases requiring X-Ray examination are referred to the Eccles and Patricroft Hospital and during the year 11 patients were referred for examination.

During the year 482 women attended the ante-natal clinic of whom 464 were residents in the Borough, 6 were from the adjacent county area and 12 were evacuees temporarily residing in the district. The patients made a total of 1,972 attendances during the year.

There was a slight increase in the number of women returning for post natal examination but the number of 87 who returned for examination after confinement is still far from satisfactory. The mothers are advised to return for post natal examination during the ante-natal period and also by the municipal midwives before they cease to attend, but, although a promise to attend is readily given in most instances, it is rarely implemented, a variety of excuses for the failure to attend being forthcoming.

The facilities of the ante-natal clinic have been available on one morning each for the municipal midwives to carry out ante-natal supervision of their patients as a supplement to, but not in substitution for, ante-natal visits to the homes of their patients. The arrangement has been appreciated by the midwives and the patients. It has enabled the midwives to supervise their patients under more favourable conditions and has brought the mother into closer contact with the Welfare Centre. During the year the patients of the midwives have made 823 attendances at the clinic.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY SERVICE

During the year the four municipal midwives have attended 318 cases, 297 of which were delivered by the midwives, and 23 by doctors. They were also called in by medical practitioners in 11 cases of abortion.

In 12 instances no fee was charged for the services of the midwives. The fees charged for the midwives services during the year amounted to £571.4s.0d. of which £529.4s.0d. was paid to the midwives or at the Welfare Centre.

During the year one midwife was granted leave of absence for six months and a temporary midwife was appointed to carry on her work.

Two of the municipal midwives have been recognised by the Central Midwives Board as district teachers of midwifery in connection with the City of Manchester and St. Mary's Hospital joint scheme for the training of midwives and have taken pupils, who have passed part 1 of the Central Midwives examination, for training in domiciliary midwifery prior to taking part 2 of the examination. During the year six pupils have had district experience, and all have obtained the Boards certificate.

Two of the municipal midwives who are qualified to administer analgesics in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board have been supplied with the necessary apparatus during the year and anaesthesia has been administered by them in 19 cases. An additional charge of 10/6d has been made in cases in which gas and air analgesia has been administered to cover the cost of the anaesthetic and the services of the second midwife. The mothers who have had gas and air analgesia have expressed their appreciation of the relief. A third municipal midwife has now completed the necessary training and will be supplied with a gas and air apparatus.

MIDWIVES ACTS

During the year 12 midwives notified their intention to practice of whom 5 were employed by the local authority, two by the Eccles and Patricroft Hospital, two at a private nursing home and three in private practice.

During the year the midwives attended 835 cases, 318 were attended by municipal midwives, 195 by midwives in private practice, 147 in a private nursing home and 175 in Eccles and Patricroft Hospital. In 709 the cases were delivered by the midwife and in 126 a doctor was in attendance at the confinement.

Medical aid was summoned in 160 cases. The claims submitted by medical practitioners numbered 91, the total amount being £125.16s.6d. £100.0s.3d. of this amount was debited to the patients and £81.13s.0d. was collected during the year.

Reasons for sending for medical aid:-

Antenatal

Abortion	4	
Antepartum haemorrhage	3	
Albuminuria	1	
Abdominal pain	1	
Persistent vomiting	1	10

Intranatal

Delayed labour	26	
Malpresentation	6	
Collapse	1	
Prolapse of cord	1	34

Carried forward:

Postnatal

Ruptured Perineum	64	
Pyrexia	6	
Adherent Placenta	2	
Swelling of legs	2	
Post partum haemorrhage	1	
Post partum shock	1	76

Child

Ophthalmia	19	
Prematurity	7	
Dermatitis	5	
Retention of urine	2	
Congenital deformities	3	
Feebleness of child	4	40

160

During the year 20 stillbirths were notified equivalent to a stillbirth rate of 24.5 per 1,000.

PUERPERALPYREXIA

The services of Dr. W. R. Addis have been retained as consultant under the Puerperal Pyrexia regulations but his services were not called for during the year.

During the year one case of puerperal pyrexia was notified and two cases of septic abortion all of which recovered. One woman who developed pyrexia towards the end of the puerperium due to breast abscess subsequently developed general septic infection and died.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

There is one private nursing home in the district registered under the Public Health Act, 1936. This home, which has six beds, caters for maternity cases only and during the year 147 cases were delivered in the home. The midwife in charge of the home is qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board and during the year gas and air analgesia was administered to 85 of the patients. The conduct of the home during the year was satisfactory.

The exemption of the Eccles and Patricroft Hospital from the provisions of the Nursing Home Regulations sections of the Public Health Act 1936 was renewed by the Council. The temporary annexe was continued to be used as a maternity ward and during the year 175 mothers were admitted for confinement. The antenatal supervision of the cases referred to the hospital has been continued by the Corporation Antenatal Clinic.

HOME HELPS

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in finding women willing to act as home helps and some of those who have given service in the past have refused to continue owing to the P.A.Y.E. method of deducting income tax. It has been ruled that, as these people are only employed casually and have no code number, tax must be deducted from each payment made and the women must make a claim for repayment of the excess tax. Complaint has been made that after several applications they have failed to recover the tax and, although no doubt the excess will ultimately be repaid, they are not prepared to wait and have declined to accept further cases.

During the year 16 women have been employed as home helps on 29 cases, the cost of the service being £127.9s.6d. part of which was recovered in accordance with the Corporation's scale.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

PERSONS INOCULATED EACH YEAR FROM 1934 to 1944

Age in Years on 31st Dec. of the corresp- onding year.	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	
0-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	15	1	5	Total inoculat- ed aged under 5 years on 31st Dec. 1944. 1272
1-	10	5	3	4	19	36	33	113	203	222	246	
2-	9	4	3	15	11	49	56	123	165	95	87	
3-	10	7	12	13	13	15	19	74	146	42	33	
4-	15	11	6	48	47	38	18	91	136	93	46	Total inoculat- ed aged 5-14 years on 31st Dec. 1944 4126.
5-	15	16	7	73	60	50	30	121	161	72	63	
6-	17	15	6	106	84	49	76	130	161	117	65	
7-	16	9	3	170	39	26	37	92	134	80	63	
8-	15	12	3	125	30	13	37	45	74	30	30	Total inoculat- ed aged 15 years and over on 31st Dec. 1944 863.
9-	-	10	3	147	16	4	51	35	60	16	19	
10-	-	-	4	54	20	2	36	37	64	15	9	
11-	-	-	-	31	30	-	24	56	51	18	4	
12-	-	-	-	-	36	-	35	39	30	17	3	Total inoculat- ed aged 15 years and over on 31st Dec. 1944 863.
13-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	23	43	14	6	
14-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	15	5	8	2	
15 and over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Total each year.	107	89	50	847	405	261	515	1020	1455	831	681 681	Grand Total 1934-44 6261.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

H O U S I N G

Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under(b)	-
(i) By the Local Authority	-
(ii) By other Local Authorities	-
(iii) By other bodies and persons	-
(b) With STATE ASSISTANCE under the Housing Acts:	
(i) By the Local Authority	-
(ii) By other bodies or persons	-

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

(i) (a) Total number of Dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	106
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	106
(ii) (a) Number of Dwelling houses (including under sub-head (i) (above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925.	-
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	-
(iii) Number of Dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-
(iv) Number of Dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	106

2. Number of defective Dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 35

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year. A.- Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	39
(ii) Number of Dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners:	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	-

Apart from essential repairs to houses, very little work is carried out owing to the shortage of labour and materials.

The total number of houses and flats in the Borough is 12,618.

The following table gives the number of houses built and the number demolished for the year 1925 to 1944 inclusive:-

Year	Houses built by Local Authority	Houses built by private enterprise	Houses demolished
1925	104	15	12
6	72	36	15
7	19	37	24
8	78	46	69
9	137	16	34
1930	26	3	29
1	21	68	40
2	-	69	14
3	12	55	20
4	112	85	68
5	1	234	46
6	82	251	76
7	-	202	28
8	2	294	10
9	158	224	34
1940	-	-	49
1	-	-	62
2	-	-	-
3	-	-	8
4	-	-	10
TOTALS	824	1635	648

SANITARY CONVENIENCES

The number and variety of Sanitary Conveniences in use at the end of the year were as follows:-

Fresh-water flushed closets	15,692
Waste-water flushed closets	54
Fresh-water flushed latrines	83
Pail closets	43
Ashbins	13,570
Baths	8,296

WATER SUPPLY

The Manchester Corporation have a continuous and adequate supply of water during the year. There was no occasion for restriction in its use by house-holders.

251 complaints of waste water due to burst pipes and defective fittings were made to the Waterworks Department.

INSPECTIONS

The number of premises visited during the year was 1,051, the number of nuisances or defects discovered 1,924, and the number abated 1,050.

There were 812 informal notices served, and 117 statutory notices.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of houses found to be infested:-

(a)	Council houses	12
(b)	Other houses	19

In 4 cases the Local Authority carried out disinfection by spraying with Zaldecide, and in 13 cases a Manchester firm of Fumigators carried out disinfection by Hydrogen Cyanide. In two cases the owners carried out the work of disinfection.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The only premises under this heading in the Borough are 33 fish fryers, two tripe boilers and four rag and bone dealers.

THEATRES AND CINEMAS

There are six such places of entertainment in the Borough. These were inspected during the year, and no cause for complaint was found.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is only one registered common lodging house in the Borough, and this has accommodation for 66 males only. It is under the personal supervision of the proprietor and is well managed.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are three cowkeepers registered in the Borough.

Two licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, one a licence to pasteurise milk and one a dealer's licence to bottle Tuberculin Tested milk.

STABLES AND PIGGERIES

There are 20 stable premises and 26 premises where pigs are kept

The number of inspections made in connection with Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops was 189.

SHOPS ACTS

There are approximately 788 shops of various kinds in the Borough.

MORTUARY

The Mortuary was used on forty-three occasions for the reception of bodies.

CANAL BOATS

There were no inspections of Canal Boats during the year. The boats delivering coal to the Wharfs here are day-boats and are not occupied by any person. The other traffic on the Canal consists of those boats passing through the district without stopping.

FOOD INSPECTION

Food surrendered:-

Luncheon Meat, chopped ham etc.	142	lbs
Meat Roll	18	lbs
Preserves	20	lbs
Stewed Steak	Tins 38	
Vegetable Salads	" 6	
Soups	" 17	
Peas	" 14	
Beans	" 38	
Salmon	" 6	
Sardines, Pilchards, Herrings	" 91	
Fruits +(various)	" 6	
Milk (evaporated)	" 58	
Milk (F.C.C.)	" 7	
Milk (M.S.C.)	" 5	
Pressed Beef	17½	lbs
Ox Tongue	6	lbs
Bacon	15	lbs
Mackerel	248	lbs
Frozen Rabbits	128	lbs
Plums	16	lbs
Eggs	49	

In addition to the above, the following foodstuffs were received from a Ministry of Food Depot for destruction.

Dehydrated Potato.	15	lbs
Jam	344	lbs
Tomato Puree	5	tons
Raisins	7 tons 19½	cwts.

INSPECTIONS

Bakehouses	44
Food Preparing Establishments	156
Fish friers	43
Milkshops and Dairies	171
Cowsheds	18
Butchers premises	35
Marine Store Dealers	12
Factories	48
Stables and Piggeries	82
Out-workers premises	15
Common Lodging Houses	11
Houses let in lodgings	29
Schools, Sanitary Conveniences	167
Theatres and Cinemas	6
Tests applied to drains	75
District Inspection of houses	931
Re-inspection of nuisances etc.	721
Visits in cases of Infectious Disease	161
Visits re Shops Acts	21
Owners Seen	192
Visits re suitability of tenants for Corporation houses	55
Visits re Rats and Mice	756

REFUSE COLLECTION DEPARTMENT

There has been some improvement in the work of the department during the year, although the shortage of labour has prevented a regular collection of house refuse. During the months of March to August, the periods between the emptying of dustbins was fourteen days, but since then, much delay has been caused by waiting for vehicles to be repaired. There has been difficulty often in obtaining spare parts.

The number of loads of refuse and salvage collected and delivered to the Salvage Works was 7,661, the total weight being 10,521 tons.

The types and weights of materials salvaged during the year are given below. The figures have been supplied by the Manager of the Sewage Farm and Salvage Works:-

	T.	C.	Q.
Paper	222	14	2
Tins	284	0	2
Ferrous Scrap	20	10	0
Textiles	37	16	2
Bottles and Broken glass	51	10	2
Bones	5	4	0
Rubber	2	15	1
	<hr/> 624	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 1

The Department supplied 342 dustbins and dustbin lids at the cost of the owners.

KITCHEN WASTE

In January a Direction under Regulation 54 b of the Defence (General) Regulations 1939, was received from the Ministry of Supply, requiring the Council to institute a separate collection of Kitchen Waste in the Borough and cause the Material collected to be sold, and delivered to the Manchester Corporation. Accordingly, from February 1st, all Kitchen Waste collected has been delivered to the Manchester Corporation Depot at Newton Heath. The price paid by Manchester is 30/-d per ton, plus nine pence per ton mile over five miles, the depot being at Newton Heath is eight miles from our depot, therefore the price paid to this Council is 32/3d per ton.

A number of the Kitchen Waste bins and lids have been stolen and others badly damaged, and on many occasions the contents of bins have been stolen, these matters have been reported to the Police.

The amount collected and sold each month is given below:-

	T.	C.	Q.	£	S	d.
January	35	17	3	62	16	0
February	28	13	3	46	5	2
March	29	3	2	47	0	10
April	24	14	3	39	17	9
May	28	1	0	45	4	7
June	34	15	2	56	1	5
July	41	8	2	66	15	11
August	50	7	2	81	4	7
September	48	17	2	78	16	2
October	52	9	0	84	11	6
November	42	17	3	69	3	1
December	44	18	3	72	9	2
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	462	5	1	£750	6	2

The amount collected during the year is an increase over 1943 of 110 tons 8 cwts. 2 qrs. and an increase in income of £134.11s.3d.

BONES

At the beginning of the year 120 bins were placed in various parts of the Borough for the reception of bones. These bins have not been used by householders as anticipated; a large number of the bins have not been used at all, bin lids have been stolen and a number of the bins have been damaged. It will therefore be necessary to remove a number of the bins and put them into stock.

RODENT CONTROL

This work continued throughout the year. There were 87 complaints received of rats and mice on premises. In 23 cases, no trace could be found and no further complaints have been received of rats or mice on these premises.

The approximate number of rats and mice destroyed since the commencement of this work in October 1943 is 5,468; rats 5,146 and mice 322, the total amount charged to occupiers of premises for the destruction of rodents £123.5s.6d.

G.V.HULSE.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

